

SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACT SHEET

Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services

February, 2002

This fact sheet contains information about the impact of alcohol and other drug use in the Tenth Norfolk Representative District. Admission data were reported to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Management Information System in FY 2001.

Residents of Tenth Norfolk Representative District

Treatment Admissions:

In FY 2001, there were 120,687 admissions to licensed substance abuse treatment services in all of Massachusetts. Of these, 0.3% (376) reside in the Tenth Norfolk Representative District. Due to budget cuts in FY 2002, BSAS estimates that 19% (71) of Tenth Norfolk Representative District residents will not be able to access treatment services. **Please note that these statistics represent only individual admissions, and represent a figure lower than the actual number of constituents in need of treatment services.**

- In FY 2001, 76.0% of admissions from the Tenth Norfolk Representative District were male and 23.9% were female.
- Over 53.7% of admissions were between the ages of 21-39.
- 92.5% of admissions were white non-Latino, 1.6% were black non-Latino, 3.2% were Latino, and 2.6% were other racial categories.
- 56.6% of those admitted to treatment were never married, 15.1% were married, and 20.4% reported not to be married now.
- 25% of admissions had less than high school education, 50.5% completed high school, and 24.4% had more than high school education.
- 44.6% of those admitted to treatment were employed.
- 4.7% of those admitted were homeless.
- 7.4% of admissions had prior mental health treatment.

Substances Used in Past Year:

Upon entering treatment, each client is asked to report ALL substances used in the past year (12 months) prior to admission. Admissions frequently report using more than one substance within the year. The use of more than one psychoactive substance, such as alcohol and marijuana, is referred to as 'polydrug' or 'polysubstance' use. For example, individuals who use cocaine, crack and heroin also may report the use of either alcohol and/or marijuana.

- Table 1 shows ALL substances which clients reported using in the year prior to admission, including the prevalence of injection drug use (IDU) in the Tenth Norfolk Representative District. Injection drug users (or IDU's) are individuals who use a needle to ingest cocaine, crack, heroin or another drug to get high.

Table 1 Annual Admissions by Substance Used FY 1995 – FY 2001							
Tenth Norfolk Representative District							
	Total	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	IDU
FY '95	338	296	105	74	35	45	27
FY '96	297	269	132	75	32	40	34
FY '97	332	289	99	58	26	42	36
FY '98	347	303	88	60	24	53	41
FY '99	325	292	95	73	32	45	32
FY '00	352	296	124	82	54	97	68
FY '01	376	292	92	77	26	111	99

- Since dropping in FY 1998, residents of Tenth Norfolk Representative District reported an increase in marijuana, cocaine and crack use, with a notable peak in FY 2000. Marijuana use increased by 4%, cocaine by 28%, and crack use by 9%.
- Between FY 1995 and FY 2001, admissions reporting heroin use more than doubled, while alcohol use remained steady.

Primary Substance of Use:

At admission clients also identify a “primary drug” of use which is the substance currently causing them the most problems.

- Table 2 compares the proportional distribution of primary drugs in Massachusetts with that for the Tenth Norfolk Representative District.

Table 2 Primary Drug by District and State FY 2001					
	Alcohol	Heroin	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack
District	59.5 %	27.1%	6.6%	3.4%	0.8%
State	46.5%	35.9%	6.5%	3.9%	3.4%

- While marijuana and cocaine as a primary drug of use in your Representative District was level with the State average, alcohol as a primary drug was higher, and, heroin and crack was lower within your District.